4/21/69

Dear Paul and Gary,

I could not make enough copies of the letter I wrote the NYTimes in response to Epstein's article in yesterday's magazine, so I have asked Sylvia to send Paul the copy I sent her and Barnabei to send his to Gary.

I write you separately to call to your attention something I glossed over in the letter, the succession of Epstein's government connections.

It is a fact then on occasion Ir did say "isn't it strange", as he says, without ever saying what I said it about, for in each case it was a glaring omission in the evidence or the investigation, in each case very specific. The point is, how did Epstein, who lives in New York and schools at Boston, know about it when I never did it in either place?

Having had no occasion to keep this in mind, I can not be certain of when and where. I think I first used this device in Minneapolis in May of 1968, and thereafter in Los Angeles, San Francisco, San Diego and Texas. It is not likely Epstein was in any of these places when I did it and it is impossible the broadcasts reached to New York or Boston. I have not been in Boston since 2/67 and I have not made a broadcast in New York since about that time, probably the same trip.

Now I do know of government espionage on me. Gary has seen carbons of some of the transcripts made for the CIA, not the FBI. If the FBI is doing this, I have no knowledge of it, for they can readily tape it the home or office. The CIA has to work through fronts. Or it elects to.

What I am suggesting is that the transcripts of my appearances made for the CIA were made available to Epstein. This, in turn, indicates a relationship of some kind with that agency or its personnel. He would, at the very least, have to know he was the main beneficiary of extensive and expensive espionage, and at the very least, if he has no official connections of his own, have to suspect he was being given the "benefit" of it.

It is not hard to conceive of him as Jerry Cohen's successor. Especially when, as I have, one is told by students of his being accompanied by FBI agents when he makes speeches (from Madison these went to Iowa and phoned me in terror after the agents took after them when they heckled him from the audience).

From now on, I think we should be alert to such signs. Garrison and I have hurt the CIA. It is likely they would try and return the compliment. How many other ways are available to them? How many other people or kinds of people? Has either of you had such suspicion, or has either or you any such indication?

Sincerely,